

BOROUGH OF BEVERLEY.

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

J. P. PARK, M.D.,

FOR THE YEAR 1895.

BEVERLEY :

J. KEMP AND SON, PRINTERS, MARKET PLACE.

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SANITARY COMMITTEE.

Chairman—The Mayor, Mr. Alderman FARRAH.

Mr. Alderman APPLETON,

Mr. Councillor DAYES,

Mr. Councillor ADAMS,

Mr. Councillor DUGGLEBY,

Mr. Councillor ARDEN,

Mr. Councillor NORTON,

Mr. Councillor DALE,

Mr. Councillor RIBY,

Mr. Councillor DAWSON,

Mr. Councillor WESTERBY.

INDEX.

	PAGE
Vital and Mortal Statistics	9
Consumption	12
Diseases of the Respiratory System	14
Cancer	14
Report on the Mortality of the District	15
Zymotic Diseases	20
Fever	22
Scarlet Fever	22
Measles	23
Diphtheria and Croup	23
Diarrhœa	24
Influenza	27
Sanitation	27
Collection of Excreta, House and Trade Refuse ...	28
Food Inspection	28
Common Lodging Houses	28

APPENDIX.

Fever	29
Table of Deaths from Diarrhœa	32
Street List of Notifiable Diseases... ..	33
Inspector of Nuisances' Report	34

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN, AND BURGESSES OF THE
BOROUGH OF BEVERLEY, ACTING AS THE URBAN
SANITARY AUTHORITY.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you the following
Report for the year 1895.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J P. PARK, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

BOROUGH OF BEVERLEY.

Report, 1895.

VITAL AND MORTAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

According to the returns furnished by the Registrar (Mr. G. S. Sheffield) the number of births registered in the Beverley Urban Sanitary District during the twelve months ending December 31st, 1895, was 398, 198 males and 200 females, giving a birth rate of 30·6 per 1.000. The increase of births over deaths, representing the natural increase of the population was 130.

DEATHS.

The number of deaths registered during the same period was 268, 250 in the Borough and 18 in the Workhouse, as against a total of 214 in the previous twelve months, and an average of 244 for the past 22 years.

The annual death rate from all causes for the year under notice was 20·6 per 1.000 of a population of 13.000 of all ages, the official estimated population to the month of April, 1895, residing in 3139 houses, this being 4·1 persons to each inhabited house.

The average density of population for 1895 is estimated at 10·8 persons per acre. The density of population of the 33 largest towns in England ranges from 8·3 in Huddersfield to 97·3 persons per acre in Liverpool.

The average death rate for the Borough for the past 22 years was 20·6 per 1.000 per annum.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The infantile death rate, or proportion of deaths of infants under one year of age to registered births was 211 per 1.000.

This is a very high death rate, mainly due to the heavy mortality from Diarrhœa.

The average mortality of infants from all causes in England and Wales during the ten years from 1880 to 1890 was 142 to 1.000 births.

The following Table gives the population, number of deaths in the Borough and the Workhouse, and annual death rate with corresponding zymotic rate for the years 1874 to 1895 inclusive:

Year.	Population.	Deaths in Borough.	Deaths in Workhouse.	Total of Deaths.	General Death Rate.	Zymotic Death Rate.
1874	10,578	...	...	205	19·3	1·2
1875	10,700	...	...	247	23·0	2·3
1876	10,820	...	...	239	22·0	1·4
1877	10,940	...	...	198	18·0	0·9
1878	11,060	...	...	226	20·4	2·0
1879	11,182	...	...	243	21·7	1·6
1880	11,291	212	17	229	20·2	2·3
1881	11,410	215	21	236	20·6	0·8
1882	11,522	219	15	234	20·3	1·0
1883	11,635	213	21	234	20·1	1·5
1884	11,748	242	16	258	21·9	4·1
1885	11,861	225	16	241	20·3	1·1
1886	11,974	255	12	267	22·2	1·7
1887	12,087	197	18	215	17·7	1·5
1888	12,200	228	20	248	20·3	0·9
1889	12,313	236	30	266	21·6	2·9
1890	12,425	289	26	315	25·3	2·3
1891	12,539	235	28	263	20·9	0·7
1892	12,651	211	18	229	18·1	1·1
1893	12,764	290	22	312	24·4	4·0
1894	12,877	193	21	214	16·6	1·3
1895	13,000	250	18	268	20·6	2·5

The following Table gives the number of deaths at different ages for the years 1890 to 1895 inclusive.

	1895	1894	1893	1892	1891	1890
Under 1 year	84	46	90	52	53	65
1 year and under 5	26	20	31	20	13	35
5 years „ 15	6	8	9	7	11	12
15 „ „ 25	15	14	15	11	12	16
25 „ „ 35	11	8	20	10	12	24
35 „ „ 45	10	10	16	10	8	16
45 „ „ 55	12	17	26	23	22	25
55 „ „ 65	18	23	29	14	28	26
65 „ and upwards	86	68	76	82	104	96
	268	214	312	229	263	315

The death rate for the year was the average, which is a high one. In ordinary years the death rate of the Borough varies within comparatively narrow limits, and it is only in low level water years, or hot summers, that the death rate is increased 3 or 4 per 1,000, owing to the increased mortality principally from Enteric Fever and Diarrhœa. During the years 1890, '93, and '95, in which ordinary conditions were not present, the number of deaths registered from the above two diseases was 86 as compared with 14 in the three ordinary years of 1891, '92, and '94. The mortality from Consumption is also materially increased during the years in which the above two diseases are prevalent, as during the three former years 62 deaths were due to this disease, as against 42 in the three latter. The sanitary condition of the town is more correctly measured by the comparative prevalence of these diseases than by any mere variation of its death rate.

CONSUMPTION.

The number of deaths registered from this disease during the year was 20, as against 14 in the previous year and an average of 19 for the last 16 years; the death rate for the year under notice was equal to 1·5 per 1,000 on the estimated population.

Since the discovery of the tubercle bacillus by Koch, this disease has from year to year received increasing attention from Medical Officers of Health, and is now placed in the list of preventible diseases. It may practically be said that no child is born with the seeds of Consumption although the offspring of consumptive parents; that only a tendency to the disease is transmitted from parent to child; that persons born with this tendency can be infected by tubercle in milk or meat, or from those already suffering from the disease; that millions of these bacilli are given off daily by consumptives, and the number of them in any district depends upon the number of persons suffering from Consumption and the care taken to destroy the sputa. Amongst the rules giving instructions for the prevention of Consumption, and which might with advantage be adopted by any Sanitary Authority, are those issued by the Health Department, New York.

Rules for the Prevention of Consumption:

“Pulmonary Tuberculosis (Consumption) is directly communicated from one person to another. The germ of the disease exists in the expectoration of persons afflicted with it.

Tuberculosis is commonly produced in the lungs (which are the organs most frequently affected) by breathing air in which living germs are suspended as dust.

The material which is coughed up sometimes in large quantities by persons suffering from Consumption, contains these germs often in enormous numbers. This material, when expectorated, frequently lodges in places where it dries, as in the street, on floors, carpets, handkerchiefs, &c. After drying in one way or another it is very apt to become pulverised, and float in the air as dust. By observing the following rules, the danger of catching the disease will be reduced to a minimum:—

(1.) Do not permit persons suspected to have Consumption to spit on the floor, or on clothes, unless the latter be immediately burnt. The spittle of persons suspected to have Consumption should be caught in earthen or glass dishes, containing the following solution:—

Corrosive Sublimate	...	1 part.
Water	... ..	1000 parts.

(2.) Do not sleep in a room occupied by a person suspected of having Consumption. The living rooms of a consumptive patient should have as little furniture as practicable. Hangings should be especially avoided. The use of carpets, rugs, etc., ought always to be avoided.

(3.) Do not fail to wash thoroughly the eating utensils of a person having Consumption as soon after eating as possible, using boiling water for the purpose.

(4.) Do not mingle the unwashed clothing of consumptive patients with similar clothing of other persons.

(5.) Do not fail to catch the bowel discharges of consumptive patients with Diarrhœa in a vessel containing:—

Corrosive Sublimate	...	1 part.
Water	... ..	1000 parts.

(6.) Do not fail to consult the family physician concerning the social relations of persons suffering from suspected Consumption.

(7.) Do not permit mothers suspected of Consumption to nurse their offspring.

(8.) Household pets (animals or birds) are quite susceptible to Tuberculosis, therefore do not expose them to persons afflicted with Consumption; also do not keep, but destroy at once all household pets suspected of having Consumption, otherwise they give it human beings.

(9.) Do not fail to cleanse thoroughly the floors, walls, and ceilings of the living and sleeping rooms of persons suffering from Consumption at least once in two weeks."

To which may be added—

Two of the most valuable and costless disinfectants are fresh air and sunlight.

The tubercle bacilli retain their power of infection for long periods when kept in darkness with little access of air, but soon lose their power for evil when exposed to sunlight and fresh air. All houses should be kept scrupulously clean, overcrowding avoided, and all accumulations of refuse or decaying organic matter should be quickly removed from the houses and their surroundings.

All cows' milk should be boiled, to prevent the disease being conveyed from consumptive cows.

Although Beverley is not, by its situation and high water level, a place well adapted for consumptives, yet the death rate from it has always been below the average of England and Wales. During the past five years 79

deaths were registered from Consumption as against 115 in the previous five—that is, there has been a reduction in the past five years in the mortality equal to 7 deaths per year, a fact which should be most gratifying to the Sanitary Authority, and is due either to the improved drainage of the town, lowering the ground water level, or an improvement in the general sanitary condition of the Borough.

DISEASES OF THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM.

These diseases, other than Consumption, caused 37 deaths as against 30 in the previous year and 59 during 1893, of these 26 were due to Bronchitis and 20 to Pneumonia.

CANCER.

This disease occasioned 13 deaths as compared with 10 in the previous year. The mortality from this disease is a high one, and the question as to whether heredity or locality has the greater influence in its production is an interesting one.

Report on the Mortality and Condition of the District.—Table shewing the Deaths Registered from all causes, with Classification of Ages, from the 1st January to 31st December, 1895, inclusive.

Population in 1891.		AGES.												Total.	
Deaths from		4345	2673	5521											
		St. Martin.	St. Nicholas.	St. Mary.	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 to 75	75 and upwards	
I.—Specific Febrile, or Zymotic Diseases															
1.—MIASMATIC DISEASES.															
Measles	1	1	1	1	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Scarlet Fever .....	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Diphtheria and Croup.....	..	..	..	2	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	3	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	3	..	..	..	..	5
Influenza	1	2	2	2	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	1	1	5
2.—DIARRHOEAL DISEASES.															
Diarrhœa.....	10	6	6	6	20	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	22
3.—VENEREAL DISEASES.															
Syphilis .....	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
4.—SEPTIC DISEASES.															
Erysipelas .....	..	1	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Pyæmia, Septicæmia ..	1	..	2	2	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	3
Puerperal Fever	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
II.—Dietetic Diseases.															
Want of Breast Milk, Starvation, Improper Feeding .....	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

Report of the Mortality, &c.—continued.

Population in 1891.		4345	2673	5521	AGES.										Total
Deaths from		St. Martin.	St. Nicholas.	St. Mary.	0 to 5	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 to 75	75 and upwards	
III.—Constitutional Diseases.															
Struma...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rickets	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cancer, Malignant Disease	6	3	4	4	...	...	...	...	2	2	4	1	5	1	13
Tubercular Meningitis, Hydrocephalus	1	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Phthisis	12	2	6	6	1	...	1	6	3	2	4	2	1	...	20
Anæmia, Chlorosis, Leucoeythæmia	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Glycosuria, Diabetes Mellitus	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
IV.—Developmental Diseases.															
Premature Birth	2	1	1	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Congenital Malformations	...	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Old Age	13	4	13	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	29	30
V.—Local Diseases.															
1.—DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM.															
Inflammation of Brain or Membranes	1	1	1	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Apoplexy, Softening of the Brain, Hemiplegia, Brain Paralysis	11	2	5	5	...	...	1	...	1	1	1	9	5	1	18
Epilepsy	1	...	3	3	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Convulsions	3	4	2	2	8	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Caries of Spine	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1

Report of the Mortality, &c.—continued.

Population in 1891.		4345	2673	5521	AGES.								75 and upwards	Total.
Deaths from		St. Martin.	St. Nicholas.	St. Mary.	0 to 5	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 to 75	
2.—DISEASES OF CIRCULATORY SYSTEM.														
Arterial Degeneration .....	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1
Chronic Endocarditis .....	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Valvular Diseases of Heart... ..	5	4	2	2	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	3	5	11
Aneurism	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Angina Pectoris .....	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1
Fatal Syncope.....	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	4
3.—DISEASES OF RESPIRATORY SYSTEM.														
Emphysema, Asthma	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Bronchitis	16	5	5	5	9	9	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	26
Pneumonia	2	1	1	4	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	7
Broncho Pneumonia	2	...	...	1	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
4.—DISEASES OF DIGESTIVE SYSTEM.														
Dentition	3	4	4	1	6	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Diseases of Stomach	2	2	2	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	4
Enteritis and Dysentery.....	1	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Obstructive Diseases of Intestine	1	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Peritonitis .....	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Typhilitis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Cirrhosis of Liver .....	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Jaundice and other Diseases of Liver	3	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	5
Abdominal Tumour.....	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1

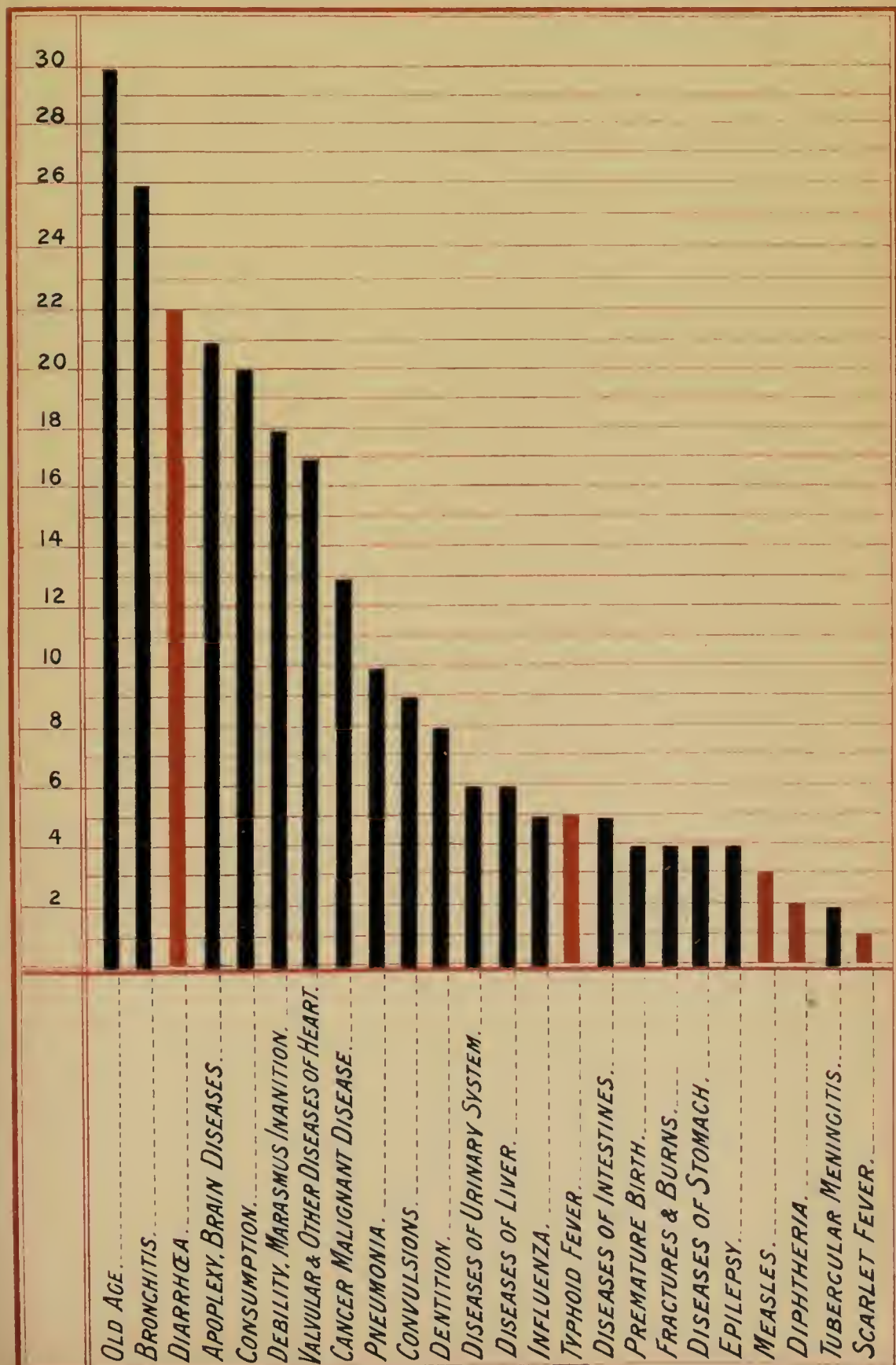
Report of the Mortality, &c.—continued.

Population in 1891.		4345	2673	5521	AGES.										Total.
Deaths from		St. Martin.	St. Nicholas.	St. Mary.	0 to 5	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 to 75	75 to 85	Total.
5.—DISEASES OF URINARY SYSTEM.															
Bright's Disease, Albuminuria		2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	..	4
Disease of Bladder or of Prostate		1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2
6.—DISEASES OF REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM.															
<i>Of Parturition.</i>															
Placenta Prævia, Flooding .....		..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
VI.—Violence.															
1. — ACCIDENT OR NEGLIGENCE.															
Fractures and Contusions .....		..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	2
Burn, Scald .....		..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
VII.—Ill Defined and not Specified Causes.															
Marasmus		4	2	1	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Debility, Atrophy, Inanition ..		2	5	4	9	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Sudden Death (cause not ascertained)		2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2
Totals		121	63	84	84	26	6	15	11	10	12	18	33	53	268

*Chart shewing the Comparative Number of the
Twenty Four principal Causes of Death during the
Year 1895.*

Deaths from Zymotic Diseases.

Deaths from other Diseases.



SUMMARY OF PRECEDING TABLE.

	St. Martin.	St. Nicholas	St. Mary.	Total.
SPECIFIC FEBRILE, OR ZYMOTIC DISEASES—				
Miasmatic diseases	5	5	6	16
Diarrhoeal „	10	6	6	22
Venereal „ .....	...	1	...	1
Septic „	2	1	3	6
DIETETIC DISEASES				
	.	...	1	1
CONSTITUTIONAL DISEASES—				
Cancer	6	3	4	13
Phthisis.....	12	2	6	20
Tubercular Meningitis	1	...	1	2
Other.....	3	1	...	4
DEVELOPMENTAL DISEASES—				
Old Age... ..	13	4	13	30
Premature Birth	2	1	1	4
Congenital Malformations ..	...	2	..	2
LOCAL DISEASES—				
Diseases of Nervous System	16	7	12	35
Diseases of Circulatory System	8	4	7	19
Diseases of Respiratory System	21	6	10	37
Diseases of Digestive System	11	10	4	25
Diseases of Urinary System	3	1	2	6
Diseases of Parturition.....	...	...	1	1
VIOLENCE—				
Fractures and Contusions .....	...	1	1	2
Burns and Scalds.. ..	...	1	1	2
ILL DEFINED AND NOT SPECIFIED CAUSES.....	8	7	5	20

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

The Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889.

The following is a list of the Infectious Diseases notifiable under this Act:—

Small-Pox, Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, Erysipelas, Typhus Fever, Enteric Fever, Relapsing Fever, Continued Fever, Puerperal Fever, and Cholera.

Measles, Whooping Cough, and Diarrhœa are Zymotic Diseases not notifiable under the Act.

The following is a list of the diseases notified under the above Act for the year 1895, and as compared with 1894:—

1895.	1894.
Scarlet Fever .....14	Scarlet Fever .....27
Enteric Fever 22	Enteric Fever 8
Simple Continued Fever ... 2	
Diphtheria and Croup ... ..13	Diphtheria and Croup .....11
Small-Pox 1	
Erysipelas 9	Erysipelas 2
Puerperal Fever 2	
63	48

These were distributed through the months of the year as follows:—

	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Continued Fever.	Diphtheria.	Small-Pox.	Erysipelas.	Puerperal Fever.	Total.
January	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	3
February ..	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	3
March.....	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	4
April	1	.	...	1	..	1	...	3
May .....	...	..	..	...	...	1	...	1
June	1	...	...	...	...	..	...	1
July	2	2	...	...	1	2	...	7
August .....	...	3	1	3	...	3	...	10
September ...	...	3	1	1	...	...	1	6
October	3	6	...	3	...	...	...	12
November ..	2	3	...	1	...	1	1	8
December ..	1	1	...	3	...	...	...	5
	14	22	2	13	1	9	2	63

The following Table gives the number of deaths from the seven principal Zymotic diseases for the years 1874 to 1895 inclusive :—

Year.	Small Pox.	Diphtheria.	Whooping Cough.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Diarrhoea.	Typhus.	Enteric.	Other.	Total.
1874	...	2	...	1	2	5	...	2	1	13
1875	...	4	3	1	1	9	...	1	6	25
1876	1	1	1	10	...	...	3	16
1877	3	1	5	...	...	1	10
1878	1	4	14	...	2	2	23
1879	14	2	...	3	...	19
1880	...	1	3	6	2	12	...	2	...	26
1881	4	...	2	...	...	2	2	10
1882	...	1	...	...	4	1	...	4	2	12
1883	...	6	...	4	...	5	...	2	1	18
1884	...	6	2	...	...	22	...	16	3	49
1885	...	4	3	...	...	2	...	5	...	14
1886	...	3	1	5	...	5	...	7	...	21
1887	1	3	3	...	...	10	...	2	...	19
1888	2	5	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	11
1889	...	1	...	6	12	13	...	3	1	36
1890	7	4	1	6	...	11	...	29
1891	...	3	...	...	...	2	...	4	...	9
1892	...	5	...	3	...	6	...	1	...	15
1893	2	2	4	...	...	29	...	14	1	52
1894	...	6	2	8	...	...	...	1	...	17
1895	...	2	...	3	1	22	...	5	...	33
	5	54	35	46	45	180	...	87	25	477

Table giving the number of deaths from the seven principal Zymotic diseases, and as compared with the two previous years :

	1895.	1894.	1893.
Small-Pox.....	...	...	2
Typhoid and Simple Continued Fevers.	5	1	15
Diphtheria and Croup...	2	6	2
Whooping Cough...	...	2	4
Scarlet Fever	1	...	...
Diarrhœa	22	...	29
Measles	3	8	...
	<hr/> 33	<hr/> 17	<hr/> 52

The Zymotic death rate for the year, exclusive of Diarrhœa, was 0·8 per 1.000.

FEVER.

This term embraces the three forms—Typhus, Typhoid, and Simple Continued Fever.

The number of cases notified during the year under the above heading was 24, (Typhoid Fever 22, Simple Continued Fever 2,) 5 of which died, giving a mortality of 20·8 per cent. on the cases reported.

The mortality per 1.000 of the estimated population was ·38.

These cases occurred in 15 households, in 3 of which there were multiple cases.

Seven cases were due to infection conveyed from persons already suffering from Typhoid Fever, and these were owing in great measure to want of proper care and inadequate means of isolation and disinfection. Unfortunately within recent years, cases arising from similar causes have been too frequent, and the only remedy I can suggest to your Committee for the prevention of these is the establishment of a permanent Infectious Diseases Hospital where the primary rules for the prevention of the spread of infectious diseases can be effectually carried out.

Owing to the notification of these cases the following Sanitary Precautions were enabled to be taken:—

Isolation was carried out as far as it was possible to do so in four-roomed cottages where most of the cases occurred.

Disinfectants were freely distributed, and pails for the collection of the dejecta from the patients were supplied and emptied daily.

Each household was likewise supplied with a handbill giving concise instructions regarding the nature of the disease, isolation, and disinfection.

SCARLET FEVER.

Thirteen cases were notified during the year, 1 of which died, this being the only fatal case of this disease since 1890. Beverley is liable to epidemics of this disease about every 10 years, the three last being in the years 1868, 1878, and 1889.

MEASLES.

Measles accounted for 3 deaths in 1895, as against 8 in the previous year. The epidemic of this disease which begun in November, 1894, terminated in February of the present year. The question as to the advisability of making Measles a notifiable disease is at present receiving a considerable amount of attention from Sanitary Authorities, over 70 Authorities having already added it to the list of notifiable diseases.

The advantage of making this a notifiable disease would be our ability to exclude children from infected households attending school; and this precaution, if effectually carried out, might so limit the spread of the disease that the question of closing the schools, and seriously interfering with the educational work of the town, might not have to be considered by your Authority.

DIPHTHERIA AND CROUP.

The following Table gives a list of deaths from Diphtheria and Croup, at different ages, for the last 16 years:—

	Under 1 year.	1 year and under 2.	2 years and under 3.	3 years and under 4.	4 years and under 5.	5 years and under 6.	6 years and under 7.	7 years and under 8.	8 years and under 9.	9 years and under 10.	10 years and under 11.	Total.
1880	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
1881	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1882	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
1883	1	2	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
1884	1	1	..	2	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	6
1885	..	1	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	4
1886	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
1887	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	3
1888	..	2	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	5
1889	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
1890	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1891	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	3
1892	..	2	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	5
1893	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
1894	..	..	2	1	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	6
1895	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2
	3	12	9	5	6	6	3	2	1	..	1	48

The number of deaths registered under the above heading during the last 16 years was 48; 95·8 per cent. of which occurred under 8 years of age. No child died from this disease over 11 years, and no adult at any age. The great majority of these deaths were due to Membranous Croup, the mortality from which in Beverley is cent. per cent.

It was pointed out at the International Conference on Hygiene at Berlin, that while Diphtheria and Typhoid Fever were both propagated by excremental poisoning of the ground, and disseminated almost in the same way; that while it follows Typhoid Fever in almost parallel lines an opposite condition of the ground was necessary for its development. A damp state of the ground being essential for the development of Diphtheria and a dry state for that of Typhoid Fever, and as we approach one or other of these conditions so Diphtheria or Typhoid supervene.

This fact has been well illustrated in Beverley during the last six years. In the three dry years of 1890, '93, and '95, 4 deaths were registered from Diphtheria, as compared with 14 in the other three years of 1891, '92, and '94. During the three former years 30 deaths were due to Typhoid Fever, as against 6 in the three latter.

13 cases of Diphtheria were reported during the year, as against 11 in 1894, and of these 6 were of the age of 12 years and upwards. 2 of the reported cases died, giving a mortality of $\cdot 10$ per 1.000.

How many of the above cases would be found to be Diphtheritic on a bacteriological examination it is impossible to say, but the following recommendation of Dr. Mason to the Hull Sanitary Authority is worthy of your attention :—

“ I would suggest to your Committee a similar mode of procedure to that carried out in various towns in this country, and provided for in most cities on the Continent, viz :—Whilst the Medical Practitioners are required to notify cases of Diphtheria under the Infectious Diseases Act of 1890, or where otherwise required by Provisional Acts, they should also be requested to forward to the Central Authority, in specially prepared *media* provided for them, portions of the membrane and secretions from the infected patient for bacteriological examination and investigation, and the result thereof should be forwarded to the Medical Practitioner notifying the case.

“ The expenses incurred in carrying out these necessary investigations should be borne by the Town Council.”

SUMMER OR SEASONAL DIARRHŒA.

The number of deaths during the year from Diarrhœa was 22, as compared with 29 in 1893, 13 in 1889, 10 in 1887, 22 in 1884, and 12 in 1880.

As will be seen from the accompanying Table 20 or 90·9 per cent. died at the age of 1 year and under, and of these only one infant was fed solely

from the breast, and this child had been in failing health for over a month previous to being attacked by Diarrhœa. Of the remaining 19, 4 were fed partially at the breast and partially with cows' milk, 3 were fed on Swiss milk, 1 on Dr. Neaves' food, and the remaining 11 on cows' milk exclusively. Of the remaining 2, 1 died at 18 months, and the other from Chronic Diarrhœa at 76 years of age, the latter however having no relation to the Diarrhœas under discussion.

There can be little doubt that Seasonal Diarrhœas are due to the growth and multiplication of bacteria in the milk and other artificial foods which constitute the chief or sole food of infants brought up by hand, and the development in these foods of chemical poisons by these low forms of organic life. Milk being the most suitable culture medium for the growth of these bacteria the question naturally arises what means can be adopted :—

1st. To prevent the contamination of the milk.

2nd. To destroy the bacteria with which the milk has already been contaminated.

The milk in a healthy cow's udder is aseptic and it is from milking or subsequent handling, storage, or transportation, that it becomes contaminated with these poison^g germs.

To **destroy** the bacteria that may already have gained access to the milk it is necessary that it should be sterilized by heat, and to do this in such a manner that the germs will be destroyed and the nutritive qualities of the milk preserved is no simple process. On the continent, Companies have been formed to carry out the sterilization of milk for children and invalids, and no doubt in the future all towns of any importance will possess the means of successfully sterilizing milk.

It is, however, better to boil the milk, independent of the action it may have on its nutritive qualities, than run the risk of having the child infected by these bacteria.

It is the opinion of most, if not all, medical men that next to mother's milk, cows' milk is the most convenient and suitable substitute for the rearing of children, and if parents were willing to pay for wholesome, uninfected milk, half the price they give for the many advertised artificial foods, their children would be better nourished and disease among them would be much diminished.

To **prevent** the contamination the following rules are laid down by Dr. Vaughan, an eminent authority on this subject :

“(a) The cows should be healthy, and the milk of any animal which seems indisposed should not be mixed with that from healthy animals.

“(b) Cows must not be fed upon swill or the refuse from breweries or glucose-factories, or upon any other fermented food.

“(c) Milk cows must not be allowed to drink from stagnant pools, but must have access to fresh pure water.

“(d) The pasture must be freed from noxious weed, and the barn and yard must be kept clean.

“(e) The udders should be washed, then wiped dry, before each milking.

“(f) The milk must be at once thoroughly cooled. This is best done in the summer by placing the milk can in a tank of cold water or ice-water, the water being of the same depth as the milk in the can. It would be well if the water in the tank could be kept flowing, and this will be necessary unless ice-water is used. The tank should be cleansed each day to prevent bad odours. The can should remain uncovered during the cooling, and the milk should be gently stirred. The temperature should be reduced to 60° F or lower within an hour. The can should remain in the cold water until ready for delivery.

“(g) Milk should be delivered during the summer in refrigerator cans or in bottles about which ice is packed during the transportation.

“(h) When received by the consumer it must be kept in a clean place at a temperature some degrees below 60° F.”

“If all the milk used in the artificial feeding of infants could be obtained and marketed with the care demanded by the above rules, milk infection would be practically unknown and the sterilization of the infants' food would be unnecessary.”

Infantile Diarrhoea only occurs in Beverley during hot seasons, when the 4-foot earth temperature reaches 56°F., putrefactive changes take place in the pores of the earth causing the development of bacteria, &c., and their development is influenced by the nature of the soil and the extent of its pollution by organic matter.

INFLUENZA.

Table showing number of deaths at different ages since its first appearance in the town in 1890:—

Year.	Between 5 and 15.	Between 35 and 45.	Between 45 and 55.	Between 55 and 65.	Between 65 and 75.	Over 75 years.	Total.
1890	1	...	...	1	...	...	2
1891	...	...	4	2	...	1	7
1892	1	...	1	...	1	...	3
1893	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
1894	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1895	1	1	...	1	1	1	5

Although an extensive outbreak of the above disease occurred in the Borough during the early months of the year only 5 deaths resulted. This disease is very infectious and spreads with great rapidity, especially where large bodies of working people are brought together in their different trades, &c., &c. Owing to its short period of incubation and consequent sudden onset of attack, no very efficient means can be taken to prevent its spread, and previous attacks only render individuals more liable to others. The disease is most infectious at its onset but may remain so for eight or ten days longer.

SANITATION.

Every house in which infectious disease is notified is visited, but there is no systematic inspection of the district as required under Sect. 92 of the Public Health Act.

Under this heading I desire to point out to your Committee that the drainage of a large number of the houses in the Borough is defective, owing to want of proper trapping. The drains of these houses are trapped by the old brick catchpits, which are utterly valueless as traps, and only serve for the collection of decaying filth, the production of foul smells, and the dissemination of disease. These catchpits ought to be abolished, and replaced by sanitary gullies.

The slaughter-houses are systematically visited, and so are the lodging-houses, but no official visits are paid to cowsheds, dairies, or shops where milk is sold, because of the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Act being in abeyance.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF EXCRETA, HOUSE AND TRADE REFUSE.

Nothing conduces more to the health of a community than the regular removal of all refuse and excreta from the vicinity of dwelling-houses. During the past two years upwards of 1,600 ashpits have been made sanitary, and 300 of the worst examples of these have been replaced by boxes, the contents of which are collected once a week. The ordinary ashpits and privies are emptied once a month, and though this part of the sanitary work of the town is now carried on in an efficient manner, no doubt, in coming years the present system of night-soil collection will be improved to meet the advance made in sanitary science. At present the system as carried out does good work that will tell in an improved state of health of the inhabitants of the town.

FOOD INSPECTION.

The markets have been regularly inspected, but no meat, fish, fruit, or vegetables have been condemned during the year as unfit for food. Six samples were under the Food and Drugs Act sent for analysis, and all were certified to be free from adulteration. Samples should be periodically taken under this Act and submitted for analysis.

FLUSHING, AND DISTRIBUTION OF DISINFECTANTS.

Disinfectants are freely and gratuitously distributed to all who require them, and, when necessary, house drains are flushed daily with disinfectants, especially in households attacked with Enteric Fever.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

At present there are four registered houses in the Borough, affording accommodation for 160 lodgers. The cubical space allowed for each individual is three hundred cubic feet. Two of the houses have been recently built and are well adapted for the purposes they serve. The other two are old, the rooms small, ill-ventilated, and badly lighted, rendering them unsuitable for the purpose of lodging houses.

These houses are regularly and carefully inspected by Superintendent Knight, and except for unavoidable overcrowding for a short time during harvest, no case of overcrowding or of infectious disease has been notified in any of them during the year.

Many Corporations are following the example of the County Councils of London and Glasgow by erecting and maintaining under efficient management a lodging house in each town which shall serve as a model to the keepers of all other lodging houses,

APPENDIX.

FEVER.

"Age materially influences the occurrence of Enteric Fever. It is by far most common during youth and adolescence, being very rare in young infants, and in persons beyond 45 or 50 years of age. Individuals under 30 are twice as liable as those over 30, and half the cases occur from 15 to 25."—MERCHISON.

The following Table gives the number of cases, locality, number of cases in household, approximate date of attack, age, occupation, water supply, and milk supply :

Number of Case.	Locality.	Number of Cases in Household.	Approximate Date of Attack.	Age.	Occupation.	Water Supply	Milk Supply.
1	Beckside ...	4	23,12,94	22	Housewife	Public Pump	A.
2	" ...	...	20, 1,95	18	Cartman	"	"
3	" ...	...	4, 2,95	20	"	"	"
4	" ...	...	4, 2,95	4	...	"	"
5	Railway Street	1	16, 7,95	18	Domestic Ser.	Waterworks	B.
6	Bogle Lane ...	1	3, 7,95	29	Tanner's Lab.	Private Pump	C.
7	Railway Terrace	1	9, 8,95	21	Domestic Ser.	"	D.
8	Keldgate ...	1	16, 8,95	66	Tanner's Lab.	Public Pump	E.
9	Cherry Tree Ter.	1	20, 8,95	9	School-girl	"	C.
10	" "	1	27, 8,95	14	P.O. Mess'ger	"	C.&F.
11	Tiger Lane ...	1	30, 8,95	28	Domestic Ser.	Private Pump	G.
12	Market Place..	1	31, 8,95	22	Cartman	Public Pump	F.
13	Enfields ...	1	5, 9,95	27	Housewife	"	B.
14	" ..	1	6, 9,95	28	"	"	E.
15	Keldgate ...	5	27, 9,95	14	School-boy	Private Pump	H.
16	" ...	...	28, 9,95	35	Housewife	"	"
17	" ...	...	30, 9,95	8	School-girl	"	"
18	" ...	..	2,10,95	5	"	"	"
19	" ...	..	9,10,95	15	Errand-boy	"	"
20	" ...	1	3,10,95	40	Tanner's Lab.	Public Pump	"
21	Norwood ...	1	3,11,95	9	School-girl	"	I.&K.
22	Lurk Lane ...	3	9,11,95	51	Housewife	Private Pump	H.
23	" ...	...	20,11,95	5	School-girl	"	"
24	" ...	...	30,11,95	9	"	"	"

Eighty-three per cent. of the above cases occurred between 4 and 30 years of age.

- (1) These cases were due to infection conveyed from a case reported in
 (2) Wilbert Lane during December, 1894.
 (3)
 (4)

- (5) The house and premises sanitary. The case was a slight one.
- (6) The drainage of this house was defective, and the water on chemical analysis was found to be of second class quality.
- (7) Sanitary condition of house and premises good. The probable cause of the Fever was the insanitary condition of old Enfield brick sewer.
- (8) Sanitary condition of house and premises good. Case occurred in a house next door in 1892 owing to Walker Beck passing under it.
- (9) This was a case of Simple Continued Fever. House and premises sanitary.
- (10) House and premises sanitary. This patient attributed his illness to a bad smell whilst on a visit to Whitby on Bank Holiday.
- (11) Simple Continued Fever. House and premises sanitary.
- (12) House and premises found sanitary on inspection. This patient attributes the cause of his attack to eating oysters at Scarborough.
- (13) Sanitary condition of house and premises good. Probable cause same as No. 7.
- (14) Brick catchpit in yard instead of sanitary gully. Probable cause same as Nos. 7 and 13.
- (15) {
- (16) { House and premises sanitary. The drainage was tested by the smoke
- (17) { test and found tight.
- (18) }

In this household 5 cases occurred (1 being due to infection)—of these the first 4 cases developed within a few days of each other without any previous symptoms such as headache or any undefinable feeling of illness which usually precede the development of Typhoid Fever. The onset of these cases was sudden, showing that the poison was taken in a very concentrated form. Suspicion was at once directed to the water supply which is obtained from a private pump, and was found on chemical analysis to be pure and free from any sewage contamination. The pump forms the domestic supply to 3 other households containing 19 occupants, half of whom are at that age when Typhoid Fever is most liable to attack them. In addition, one of the occupants of these three houses keeps cows, and not only sells but stores milk. The milk cans are washed by this water, and the pans in which it is stored are also washed with it, and yet no incidence of this disease was on milk supplied from this dairy; so that taking these things into consideration, it cannot reasonably be assumed that water was the means by which the Fever was conveyed to this household.

During the months of October, November, and December, 1895, and January, 1896, 12 cases of Typhoid Fever were notified. Eleven of these occurred in 5 houses situated in Keldgate, Lurk Lane, and Queensgate Road. The drainage and sanitary condition of these houses, with one exception, was good ; no two of them were supplied with water from the same pump, but all derived their milk supply from the same source. The water used by the dairyman was found on analysis to be chemically pure ; the milk was likewise examined with the same result. The premises were examined by your Medical Officer, and the drainage was found to be defective ; but the full extent of the defect cannot be known until the drainage is thoroughly overhauled.

- (19) Due to infection from preceding cases.
- (20) A mild case. Drainage of house good.
- (21) Mild case. This house is destitute of drainage.
- (22) Sanitary condition of house and premises good.
- (23) Caught the disease from visiting at the house of the preceding.
- (24) The result of infection from case No. 22.

This Table shews the number of deaths from Seasonal or Summer Diarrhœa during 1895, with age, month when death occurred, milk supply, and whether breast or hand-fed :

No. of Case.	Age.	Month when Death occurred.	Milk Supply.	Breast-Fed.	Hand-Fed.
1	6 months	August	A.	...	Cows' Milk
2	9 "	"	B.	...	"
3	2 "	"	C.	Breast-Fed and	"
4	23 days	"	...	...	Dr. Neaves' Food
5	12 months	Sept.	D.	...	Cows' Milk
6	1 "	"	E.	...	"
7	12 "	"	D.	...	"
8	6 "	"	X.	...	"
9	6 "	"	E.	Breast-Fed and	"
10	18 "	"			
11	1 "	"	F.	Breast-Fed and	Cows' Milk
12	3 "	"	G.	...	"
13	10 "	"	H.	"	Cows' Milk and Dr. Neaves' Food
14	3 "	"	A.	...	Cows' Milk
15	3 "	"	...	...	Swiss Milk
16	3 "	October	I.	"	Cows' Milk
17	5 "	"	...	...	Swiss Milk
18	5 "	"	K.	Breast-Fed and	Cows' Milk
19	1 "	"	...	...	Swiss Milk
20	6 "	"	L.	...	Cows' Milk
21	9 "	"	...	Breast-Fed	

Street List of Notifiable Disease:

	Thphoid Fever.	Continued Fever.	Diphtheria and Croup.	Erysipelas.	Puerperal Fever.	Scarlet Fever.	Small-Pox.	Total.
Beckside	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Bogle Lane	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Brougham Row .....	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Blucher Lane .....	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3
Cherry Tree Terrace	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	3
Crane Hill .....	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Enfields	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	3
Jubilee Terrace .....	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Keldgate	7	...	1	...	1	...	...	9
Kitchen Lane .....	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Lairgate .....	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	3
Lurk Lane	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	4
Holme Church Lane .....	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Minstermoorgate .....	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Market Place	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	2
North Bar Street Without ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Norwood	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Railway Street.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Railway Terrace	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	3
Silvester Lane .....	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Stonemasons Yard .....	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Sparkmill Terrace .....	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
School Lane .....	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Toll Gavel .....	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Tiger Lane .....	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tindall Lane .....	...	...	...	1	...	3	...	4
Wilbert Grove .....	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Wood Lane .....	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Walkergate .....	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Wilbert Lane .....	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
York Terrace .....	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Albert Terrace.....	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
	22	2	13	9	2	14	1	63

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.

Report of the work done in the Nuisance Inspector's department
during the year 1895:—

Walker Beck—

In Long Lane the Culvert has been extended 10 yards near Mr. Milner's house, and the open ditch, from Messrs. Cussons & Sons' works adjoining this property, has been completely covered in.

Behind York Terrace—

The old Sewer has been removed, and an entirely new sanitary pipe substituted. The old pipe was used in the drainage of Swinemoor Lane.

Wilbert Grove—

The old Culvert intersecting Wilbert Grove opposite Sawney's Lane has been connected with the Main Sewer in Trinity Lane, and the drainage towards Enfields cut off.

Fleming Gate—

Lyndus Place and Taylor's Row (including the adjoining properties) have been thoroughly drained and connected with the Main Sewer - the open ditch in Mr. Jackson's field having been filled up.

New Walk—

The Surveyor is at present negotiating with the property owners for the drainage of the properties on the East side of New Walk, lying North of Mr. Sheardown's house. The drainage of these properties discharges at present into an open ditch in Mr. Lee's field near Pighill Lane.

18 new Earthenware trapped Gullies have been substituted for a similar number of old-fashioned brick cesspits.

24 new Gullies for the drainage of the Streets and Lanes have been fixed throughout the Borough.

At premises reported to have been in an unsanitary condition in Foreman's Yard, Stephenson's Yard in Dyer Lane, Wilbert Grove, King's Arms Yard, Vicar Lane, New Walk, Norwood, and Beckside, the ashpits have been removed, and proper sanitary boxes substituted; and at Aspen Villas in Albert Terrace two ashpits have been raised.

A considerable number of minor alterations have been made under the supervision of the Department, of which it has not been considered necessary to keep a record.



